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WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

MARCH 1985

DILHR
DEPARTMENT OF
INDUSTRY, LABOR & HUMAN RELATIONS

WISCONSIN DATA AND SOURCES

	INDICATOR	SOURCE
L1	Composite Index of Leading Indicators	Wis.Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L2	Average Work Week, Manufacturing	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L3	Average Overtime Hours, Mfg.	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L4	Average Weekly Initial Claims	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L5	Total Job Openings Received	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L6	New Business Incorporations	Wisconsin Secretary of State
L7	Net Gain in Business Phone Access Lines	Wis. Telephone Co. and General Telephone Co.
L8	Building Plans Examined	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C1	Help-Wanted Advertising Index (Milw.)	National Industrial Conference Board
C2	Total Unemployment Rate	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C3	Natural Gas Sales	Wisconsin Public Service Commission
C4	New Car Registrations	Wis. Department of Transportation
C5	Electric Power Sales	Wisconsin Public Service Commission
C6	Total Securities Registrations	Wisconsin Commissioner of Securities
C7	Personal Income	"Business Week," McGraw Hill
C8	Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg.	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C9	Cash Receipts From Farm Marketing	U.S. Department of Agriculture
C10	Contract Construction Employment	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
X1	Birth Registrations	Wis. Department of Health and Social Services
X2	Death Registgrations	Wis. Department of Health and Social Services
X3	Natural Net Gain in Population	Wis. Department of Health and Social Services
X4	Marriage Registrations	Wis. Department of Health and Social Services
X5	Consumer Price Index (Milwaukee)	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
X6	Index of Prices Received By Farmers	Wisconsin Department of Agriculture
X7	Net Gain in Residential Phone Access Lines	Wis. Telephone Co. and General Telephone Co.
X8	Labor Disputes, No. of Workers	Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
X9	Manufacturing Employment	Wis. Dept. of Industgry, Labor and Human Relations

NOTES: Selected series are seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of the Census X-11 Variant of the Census Method II Seasonal Adjustment Program. The adjusted data are plotted on arithmetic scales.

SECTION A is a summary of recent data and current changes for all indicators and is presented in chart form. The indicators are presented with cyclical timing as the principle basis of classification.

SECTION B is a summary of Wisconsin Labor Force Estimates, including Employment, Unemployment and Unemployment Rates, and selected U.S. data.

SECTION C analyzes the Wisconsin labor force by industry and by specified Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

SECTION D singles out certain economic time series as being leading or coinciding in relation to movements in aggregate economic activity. They are seasonally adjusted and presented graphically. The indicators are grouped by cyclical timing.

COVER PHOTO: Courtesy of Wisconsin Division of Tourism.

THE WISCONSIN ECONOMY

SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY

LEADING INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY POINTED DOWNWARD IN FEBRUARY. EMPLOYMENT DECREASED SIGHTLY, BUT UNEMPLOYMENT SLACKENED.

LEADING INDICATORS

The average workweek for manufacturing production workers decreased in February, a month in which the workweek usually increases slightly. A decrease in the number of hours worked per week indicates economic health only if coupled with an increase of manufacturing workers. That was not the situation in February.

Reduction in the average overtime hours contributed half of February's workweek decrease. Overtime averages normally remain about the same from January to February; or, increase only very slightly.

One hopeful indication in February was the decline in the average number of weekly initial claims for unemployment compensation. The weekly claims average decreased by nearly 2500, but mostly due to the normal seasonal pattern. Yet, even when adjusted for seasonal effects, the trend was down slightly.

Job openings received by public Job Service offices throughout the state decreased. Some decrease of job orders by employers is normal in February, but this month's drop is larger than usual for this time of year.

Less direct indicators of employment level change are indicators of business well-being. New business incorporations decreased in February at more than a seasonally normal pace.

The net gain in the number of business telephone access lines improved. The access line removals still outnumber installations in February, but by fewer numbers than a month ago or year ago.

Building plans examined by state officials increased slightly, foreshadowing an increase in construction activity. The increase is slight and about normal for this time of year. Commercial and industrial building plans must be approved for safety purposes.

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE

Employment decreased very slightly in February. Yet, however slight, the decrease was contrary to the normal second-month growth trend.

An unemployment decrease, at the same time, more than offset the employment drop, resulting in a modest decrease of the unemployment rate. The unemployment level normally increases in February.

What the aggregate employment and unemployment levels produce is a labor force figure that shrank. And, the labor force usually grows in February.

The changes in this month's employment and unemployment were small. Thus, this month's scenario is not one of job-losers exiting the labor force. Rather, its likely that there were not enough job opportunities to prompt those outside the labor force to seek employment.

Section

A WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	UNIT	MONTHLY SERIES Latest Month		Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago	% CHANGE Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago	AVG. 1983
LEADING INDICATORS								
L1 COMPOSITE INDEX OF LEADING INDICATORS								
Seasonally Adjusted	INDEX	72.6	Feb	75.2	72.7	-3.5	-0.1	58.0
L2 AVG. WORK WEEK, MFG.								
Unadjusted	HOURS	40.6	Feb	41.0	41.4	-1.0	-1.9	40.7
Seasonally Adjusted		40.6		41.0	41.4	-1.0	-1.9	
L3 AVG. OVERTIME HOURS, MFG.								
Unadjusted	HOURS	3.0	Feb	3.2	3.3	-6.2	-9.1	2.8
Seasonally Adjusted		3.1		3.3	3.4	-6.1	-8.8	
L4 AVG. WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS								
Unadjusted	NUMBER	12,569	Feb	15,068	10,839	-16.6	16.0	14,694
Seasonally Adjusted		11,993		12,035	10,374	-0.3	15.6	
L5 TOTAL JOB OPENINGS REC.								
Unadjusted	NUMBER	6,247	Feb	7,985	6,207	-21.8	0.6	7,099
Seasonally Adjusted		9,133		10,618	9,080	-14.0	0.6	
L6 NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS								
Unadjusted	NUMBER	496	Feb	631	551	-21.4	-10.0	544
Seasonally Adjusted		578		690	642	-16.2	-10.0	
L7 NET GAIN IN BUSINESS PHONES ACCESS LINES								
Unadjusted	NUMBER	-9	Feb	-115	-115	92.2	92.2	892
Seasonally Adjusted		-886		888	267	-0.2	231.8	
L8 BUILDING PLANS EXAMINED								
Unadjusted	NUMBER	297	Feb	290	326	2.4	-8.9	275
Seasonally Adjusted		445		429	488	3.7	-8.8	
ROUGHLY COINCIDING INDICATORS								
C1 HELP-WANTED INDEX (MILW.)								
Seasonally Adjusted	INDEX	56	Feb	56	51	0.0	9.8	38
C2 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, TOTAL								
Unadjusted	PERCENT	8.0	Feb	8.2	9.1	-	-	10.4
Seasonally Adjusted		7.7		7.7	8.2	-	-	
C3 NATURAL GAS SALES								
Unadjusted	MIL. THERMS	396.2	Dec	305.6	500.6	29.6	-20.9	247.9
Seasonally Adjusted		254.6		268.5	321.6	-5.2	-20.8	
C4 NEW CAR REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	NUMBER	13,205	Feb	16,489	13,354	-19.9	-1.1	14,429
Seasonally Adjusted		17,407		22,762	17,599	-23.5	-1.1	
C5 ELECTRIC POWER SALES								
Unadjusted	MIL. KWH	1905.6	Jan	1819.0	1851.8	4.8	2.9	1,765
Seasonally Adjusted		1892.4		1874.4	1838.1	1.0	3.0	
C6 TOTAL SECURITIES REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	MIL. DOL.	103.3	Feb	93.1	163.4	11.0	-36.8	143.3
Seasonally Adjusted		73.6		83.6	116.4	-12.0	-36.8	

Section

A WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	UNIT	MONTHLY SERIES			% CHANGE		AVG.
		Latest Month	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago	1983
C7 PERSONAL INCOME							
Unadjusted	MIL. DOL.	4,804 Aug	4,788	4,384	0.3	9.6	4,449
Seasonally Adjusted		4,857	4,783	4,433	1.5	9.6	
C8 AVG. WEEKLY EARNINGS, MFG.							
Unadjusted	DOLLARS	413.71 Feb	422.71	418.97	-2.1	-1.3	398.01
Seasonally Adjusted		410.02	419.77	415.28	-2.3	-1.3	
C9 CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARM MKTG.							
Unadjusted	MIL. DOL.	458.9 Dec	494.0	430.8	-7.1	6.5	415.3
Seasonally Adjusted		444.5	443.4	416.0	0.2	6.9	
C10 CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION EMPL.							
Unadjusted	THOUS.	48.5 Feb	52.9	48.5	-8.3	0.0	55.0
Seasonally Adjusted		61.9	64.0	61.9	-3.3	0.0	
OTHER KEY INDICATORS							
X1 BIRTH REGISTRATIONS							
Unadjusted	NUMBER	5,299 Feb	6,500	5,461	-18.5	-3.0	6,006
Seasonally Adjusted		5,429	6,024	5,597	-9.9	-3.0	
X2 DEATH REGISTRATIONS							
Unadjusted	NUMBER	3,645 Feb	4,339	3,346	-16.0	8.9	3,391
Seasonally Adjusted		3,546	3,425	3,255	3.5	8.9	
X3 NATURAL NET GAIN POPULATION							
Unadjusted	NUMBER	1,654 Feb	2,161	2,115	-23.5	-21.8	2,615
Seasonally Adjusted		1,647	2,567	2,106	-35.8	-21.8	
X4 MARRIAGE REGISTRATIONS							
Unadjusted	NUMBER	1,571 Feb	2,268	1,460	-30.7	7.6	3,340
Seasonally Adjusted		2,904	3,484	2,697	-16.4	7.7	
X5 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (MILW.)			(Nov)				
Unadjusted	INDEX	324.6 Jan	324.3	314.0	0.1	3.4	309.5
X6 PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS							
Unadjusted	INDEX	144 Feb	146	145	-1.4	-0.7	142
Seasonally Adjusted		142	144	143	-1.4	-0.7	
X7 NET GAIN IN RESIDENTIAL PHONES ACCESS LINES							
Unadjusted	NUMBER	1,964 Feb	2,815	-226	-30.2	969.0	872
Seasonally Adjusted		2,170	1,920	1,549	13.0	40.1	
X8 LABOR DISPUTES, NO. OF WORKERS							
Unadjusted	NUMBER	45 Feb	440	929	-89.8	-95.2	2,542
Seasonally Adjusted		88	1,005	1,824	-91.2	-95.2	
X9 MANUFACTURING EMPL.							
Unadjusted	THOUS.	503.0 Feb	510.4	504.1	-1.4	-0.2	486.0
Seasonally Adjusted		513.8	520.8	514.8	-1.3	-0.2	

Section

B

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES FEBRUARY	(In Thousands)			Pct. Chg.	
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Unadjusted					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	2355.1	2358.5	2356.6	-0.1	-0.1
Employment (Inc. Labor Disputes)	2165.9	2166.1	2141.7	-0.0	1.1
Unemployment	189.2	192.4	214.9	-1.7	-12.0
Unemployment Rate	8.0	8.2	9.1	-	-
Seasonally Adjusted					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	2426.0	2441.3	2442.7	-0.6	-0.7
Employment (Inc. Labor Disputes)	2238.8	2252.7	2242.0	-0.6	-1.4
Unemployment	187.2	188.6	200.7	-0.7	-6.7
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.7	8.2	-	-

WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FEBRUARY	(In Thousands)			Pct. Chg.	
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS	1934.9	1937.4	1873.1	-0.1	3.3
Unadjusted					
Manufacturing	503.0	510.0	503.2	-1.4	-0.0
Mining	1.0	1.1	1.2	-9.0	-16.7
Contract Construction	48.5	52.9	48.5	-8.3	0.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	88.3	88.1	87.8	0.2	0.6
Elec., Gas and Sanitary Services	16.9	17.0	16.7	-0.6	1.2
Wholesale Trade	99.2	100.6	95.8	-1.4	3.5
Retail Trade	351.7	354.2	329.9	-0.7	6.6
General Merchandise	49.6	50.3	44.7	-1.4	11.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	104.2	104.2	99.4	0.0	4.8
Banking	28.3	28.3	27.1	0.0	4.4
Insurance	33.1	33.1	32.3	0.0	2.5
Service and Miscellaneous	410.2	407.3	390.6	0.7	5.0
Hospitals	67.6	68.1	71.1	-0.7	-4.9
Private Education	25.8	24.7	24.4	4.5	5.7
Government	328.7	318.9	316.6	3.1	3.8
State Government	84.6	81.1	80.9	4.3	4.6
Local Government	217.5	211.4	209.3	2.9	3.9

UNITED STATES LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES FEBRUARY	(In Thousands)			Pct. Chg.	
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Seasonally Adjusted					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	115,084	114,875	112,724	0.2	2.1
Employment	106,685	106,391	103,888	0.3	2.7
Unemployment	8,399	8,484	8,836	-1.0	-4.9
Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.4	7.8	-	-

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Unadjusted)* FEBRUARY	(In Thousands)		
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago
All Manufacturing (Including Canning)	503.0	510.0	503.2
All Manufacturing (Excluding Canning)	496.6	503.6	496.9
Durable Goods	312.6	319.3	316.4
Lumber and Wood Prod., (Except Furniture)	20.2	20.4	20.2
Sawmills and Planning Mills	3.2	3.2	3.0
Millwork, Veneer, Plywood & Prefab. Wood Prod.	8.8	9.0	8.8
Furniture and Fixtures	11.3	11.3	9.7
Household Furniture	5.1	5.0	4.4
Stone, Clay and Glass Products	6.1	6.4	7.0
Concrete, Gypsum and Plaster Products	1.9	2.1	2.6
Primary Metal Industries	19.9	19.9	19.2
Iron and Steel Foundries	11.3	11.2	10.6
Fabricated Metal Products	49.9	50.2	50.6
Heating Equipment (Except Electrical) & Plumbing Fixtures	4.9	4.9	5.6
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	11.5	11.7	11.3
Metal Stampings	12.6	12.6	12.8
Machinery (Except Electrical)	101.7	102.1	101.6
Engines and Turbines	20.4	20.7	22.4
Farm Machinery and Equipment	11.4	11.4	13.9
Const., Min. & Material Handling Mach. & Equip.	11.1	10.9	11.7
Metalworking Machinery and Equipment	12.0	12.1	10.7
Special Industry Machinery (Except Metalworking)	11.1	11.0	10.6
General Industrial Machinery and Equipment	15.5	15.7	14.1
Service Industry Machines	7.9	8.0	7.5
Electrical Machinery, Equipment and Supplies	51.1	51.9	51.9
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	18.5	18.2	18.3
Household Appliances	6.7	6.9	6.7
Transportation Equipment	31.4	36.0	35.9
Motor Vehicles and Equipment	24.4	29.1	28.9
Instruments and Related Products	10.9	10.9	10.4
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	10.2	10.2	9.7
Nondurable Goods	190.4	190.7	186.8
Food and Kindred Products	57.5	57.6	57.6
Meat Products	13.8	14.0	13.7
Dairy Products	17.7	17.5	17.0
Canning and Preserving	6.5	6.5	6.3
Bakery Products	3.7	3.8	4.3
Beverage Industries	8.3	8.1	9.0
Textile Mill Products	4.5	4.5	4.2
Knitting Mills	3.8	3.8	3.4
Apparel and Other Finished Products	6.5	6.3	6.5
Paper and Allied Products	46.2	46.5	45.8
Pulp and Paper Mills	28.8	29.1	28.3
Converted Paper and Paperboard Products	9.4	9.3	9.3
Paperboard Containers and Boxes	6.9	7.1	6.9
Printing, Publishing and Allied Industries	37.0	37.1	34.9
Newspapers	11.6	11.7	10.9
Commercial Printing	15.3	15.4	14.5
Chemicals and Allied Products	9.8	9.8	9.6
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Products	21.0	21.0	19.8
Miscellaneous Plastics Products	16.8	16.6	15.5
Leather and Leather Products	7.5	7.6	8.2
Leather Tanning and Finishing	1.9	1.8	2.2
Footwear (Except Rubber)	3.9	4.1	4.3
Other Nondurable Goods	-	-	-

Section

C WISCONSIN EARNINGS AND HOURS DATA

EARNINGS AND HOURS *(Unadjusted)* FEBRUARY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours		
	Latest Month	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Latest Month	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago
All Manufacturing (Incl. Canning)	$414	$423	$419	40.6	41.0	41.4
All Manufacturing (Excl. Canning)	415	424	420	40.6	41.0	41.4
Durable Goods	425	439	430	40.6	41.3	41.7
Lumber/Wood Prod. (Exc. Furn.)	306	303	303	40.4	40.2	40.9
Furniture and Fixtures	300	306	315	40.7	41.0	42.0
Stone, Clay and Glass Products	386	377	390	41.4	40.8	42.6
Primary Metal Industries	401	400	408	40.7	40.9	42.2
Iron and Steel Foundries	406	406	421	40.5	40.6	42.6
Fabricated Metal Products	416	413	409	40.5	40.5	40.8
Fab. Structural Metal Prod.	430	438	410	41.9	42.7	42.0
Metal Stampings	393	397	381	38.6	39.3	39.2
Machinery (Except Electrical)	473	494	498	41.1	42.0	42.7
Engines and Turbines	502	590	570	40.3	43.7	44.2
Farm Machinery and Equip.	500	503	529	40.5	41.0	41.8
Const. and Related Mach.	470	467	489	40.2	40.2	41.3
Metalworking Mach. and Equip.	499	504	479	41.8	43.0	42.0
Spec. Ind. Mach. (Exc. Metal) .	479	486	509	43.3	43.0	46.6
Gen. Industrial Mach. and Equip.	508	507	481	41.9	41.9	41.4
Electrical Mach., Equip. and Supp.	394	396	390	39.8	40.5	41.1
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	415	423	415	40.4	40.8	40.8
Transportation Equipment	568	602	543	41.3	43.0	42.2
Instruments and Related Prod.	339	345	331	38.6	39.7	39.7
Nondurable Goods	395	396	397	40.5	40.5	40.7
Food and Kindred Products	370	369	381	39.4	39.1	38.9
Meat Products	328	323	388	38.7	38.0	38.7
Dairy Products	377	375	365	40.3	40.0	39.3
Textile Mill Products	283	299	277	39.5	40.2	38.7
Apparel and Other Fin. Prod.	235	239	218	38.6	38.0	36.5
Paper and Allied Products	513	516	490	45.0	45.3	44.9
Pulp and Paper Mills	558	559	528	46.5	46.8	46.2
Printing, Pub. and Allied Prod.	402	407	439	37.5	37.9	39.6
Chemicals and Allied Products	469	452	456	42.6	41.5	43.9
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Prod.	317	318	324	39.4	39.6	40.0
Leather and Leather Products.	252	258	255	38.3	38.4	38.5

Section

C WISCONSIN EARNINGS AND HOURS DATA

EARNINGS AND HOURS *(Unadjusted)* FEBRUARY	Average Hourly Earnings Including O.T.			Average Hourly Earnings Excluding O.T.		
	Latest Month	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Latest Month	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago
All Manufacturing (Incl. Canning)	10.19	10.31	10.12	9.83	9.88	9.72
All Manufacturing (Excl. Canning)	10.22	10.34	10.15	9.86	9.91	9.75
Durable Goods	10.46	10.62	10.32	10.13	10.19	9.94
Lumber/Wood Prod. (Exc. Furn.)	7.58	7.54	7.41	7.49	7.46	7.35
Furniture and Fixtures	7.36	7.47	7.49	7.29	7.35	7.31
Stone, Clay and Glass Products	9.32	9.24	9.16	9.17	9.10	8.79
Primary Metal Industries	9.85	9.78	9.66	9.52	9.45	9.28
Iron and Steel Foundries	10.02	10.02	9.88	9.75	9.74	9.50
Fabricated Metal Products	10.28	10.19	10.03	9.85	9.77	9.60
Fab. Structural Metal Prod.	10.26	10.25	9.77	9.83	9.81	9.42
Metal Stampings	10.18	10.14	9.71	9.98	9.96	9.52
Machinery (Except Electrical)	11.50	11.76	11.66	11.18	11.25	11.19
Engines and Turbines	12.45	13.50	12.89	12.17	12.58	12.04
Farm Machinery and Equip.	12.34	12.27	12.66	11.97	11.90	12.33
Const. and Related Mach.	11.68	11.61	11.84	11.50	11.45	11.70
Metalworking Mach. and Equip.	11.93	11.71	11.40	11.42	11.29	11.05
Spec. Ind. Mach. (Exc. Metal).	11.06	11.31	10.92	10.52	10.71	10.54
Gen. Industrial Mach. and Equip.	12.12	12.09	11.63	11.76	11.77	11.21
Electrical Mach., Equip. and Supp.	9.91	9.79	9.48	9.73	9.65	9.23
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	10.27	10.37	10.17	10.21	10.33	9.98
Transportation Equipment	13.75	14.00	12.87	13.09	13.20	12.38
Instruments and Related Prod.	8.78	8.70	8.33	8.65	8.59	8.10
Nondurable Goods	9.75	9.78	9.76	9.32	9.34	9.33
Food and Kindred Products	9.40	9.43	9.79	8.98	9.01	9.40
Meat Products	8.47	8.50	10.03	8.11	8.17	9.71
Dairy Products	9.36	9.38	9.30	8.93	8.99	9.00
Textile Mill Products	7.16	7.44	7.16	6.95	7.20	7.02
Apparel and Other Fin. Prod.	6.10	6.28	5.98	5.99	6.20	5.82
Paper and Allied Products	11.41	11.39	10.91	10.90	10.84	10.41
Pulp and Paper Mills	12.01	11.95	11.42	11.48	11.37	10.89
Printing, Pub. and Allied Prod.	10.71	10.73	11.09	10.29	10.28	-
Chemicals and Allied Products	11.02	10.89	10.38	10.61	10.59	9.97
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Prod.	8.05	8.04	8.09	7.79	7.78	7.78
Leather and Leather Products.	6.57	6.72	6.63	6.50	6.65	6.50

Section

C SUMMARY OF RECENT WISCONSIN DATA

EARNINGS AND HOURS, MFG. Production Workers *(Unadjusted)* FEBRUARY	Average Weekly						Average Hourly Earnings				
	Earnings			Hours			Including O.T.			Excluding O.T.	
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Latest Month	Month Ago
United States	$374	$380	$369	39.7	40.3	40.7	9.42	9.42	9.05	-	-
Wisconsin	414	423	419	40.6	41.0	41.4	10.19	10.31	10.12	9.83	9.88
Selected Areas											
Appleton-Oshkosh (Calumet-Winnebago-Outagamie)	415	426	409	41.6	42.5	42.3	9.97	10.03	9.67	9.56	9.53
Beloit (City)	357	357	426	38.6	38.6	44.9	9.25	9.26	9.48	-	-
Eau Claire (Eau Claire-Chippewa)	425	413	394	42.0	41.4	39.7	10.11	9.97	9.92	9.54	9.52
Fond du Lac (County)	391	391	375	42.8	42.3	41.4	9.14	9.25	9.06	8.88	8.93
Green Bay (Brown County)	447	448	442	40.9	41.0	41.3	10.92	10.92	10.69	10.32	10.29
Janesville (City)	546	642	512	40.2	45.4	40.0	13.58	14.15	12.82	12.97	13.02
Janesville-Beloit (Rock County)	469	529	461	39.4	42.7	41.3	11.90	12.38	11.17	11.26	11.23
Kenosha (County)	454	489	487	38.9	39.2	41.4	11.66	12.48	11.77	11.36	12.23
La Crosse (County)	340	341	342	38.3	38.7	38.9	8.89	8.80	8.79	8.54	8.51
Madison (Dane County)	377	396	373	40.0	41.8	39.4	9.42	9.48	9.47	9.05	9.00
Manitowoc (County)	363	365	343	38.6	39.1	39.2	9.40	9.33	8.76	9.24	9.13
Milwaukee (Milwaukee-Ozaukee-Waukesha-Washington)	466	477	469	40.8	41.3	41.7	11.42	11.54	11.25	10.96	10.99
Racine (County)	402	402	430	39.0	38.9	41.8	10.31	10.34	10.29	10.02	10.05
Sheboygan (County)	394	392	375	39.8	39.5	39.8	9.91	9.92	9.43	9.55	9.58
Wausau (Marathon County)	388	398	376	40.9	42.2	41.1	9.48	9.44	9.15	9.23	9.19

EMPLOYMENT, MFG. *(Unadjusted)* FEBRUARY	(In Thousands)			Percent Change	
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
United States	19,529.0	19,574.0	19,181.0	-0.2	1.8
Wisconsin	503.0	510.0	503.2	-1.4	-0.0
Selected Areas					
Appleton-Oshkosh (Calumet-Winnebago-Outagamie)	45.6	46.2	45.2	-1.3	0.9
Beloit (City)	5.6	5.7	5.9	-1.8	-5.1
Eau Claire (Eau Claire-Chippewa)	9.2	9.0	8.7	2.2	5.7
Fond du Lac (County)	10.3	10.4	10.2	-1.0	1.0
Green Bay (Brown County)	22.2	22.3	21.8	-0.4	1.8
Janesville (City)	10.8	10.9	10.6	-0.9	1.9
Janesville-Beloit (Rock County)	18.5	18.8	18.5	-1.6	0.0
Kenosha (County)	10.7	15.3	16.0	-30.1	-33.1
La Crosse (County)	10.8	10.9	10.2	-0.9	5.9
Madison (Dane County)	20.4	20.7	19.3	-1.4	5.7
Manitowoc (County)	10.7	10.7	11.5	0.0	-7.0
Milwaukee (Milwaukee-Ozaukee-Waukesha-Washington)	172.1	173.4	173.6	-0.7	-0.9
Racine (County)	24.3	24.1	25.8	0.8	-5.8
Sheboygan (County)	18.7	19.0	18.2	-1.6	2.7
Wausau (Marathon County)	10.7	10.7	10.9	0.0	-1.8

WAGE SURVEY AIDS ECONOMIC RESEARCH

by Joseph Tumpach Jr. and Bill Beutel

What is used as evidence by comparable worth-for-women advocates, eagerly sought by employers, and read all over? A wage survey. And, Wisconsin's Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations has just completed a survey of wages for over 400 occupations throughout the state.

In itself, the wage survey is a welcome document. Wage rates for occupations, it seems, are the information that employers most often request from labor market analysts. Employers need to know a competitive wage offer when bidding for help in the labor market; need to know a reasonable wage rate when negotiating a contract with a labor union.

In conjunction with other data, the wage survey becomes a powerful research tool. Concentration of women in low-wage occupations ranks high in priority of research possibilities. Question: X percent of working women are employed in only X number of occupations, and those are low-wage occupations - true or false? The question is currently one of keen interest.

But, the wage survey did not distinguish between male and female employees. By using 1980 Census data, labor market analysts determined the extent of both men's and women's concentration within a limited number of occupational categories. By stratifying occupations according to the men and women employed, analysts culled the largest-employment occupations for men and women, noted the concentration of men and women in those occupations, and compared the wages of the predominantly women's occupations to the wages of men's.

How valid is a merger of 1980 Census employment data and a 1985 wage survey? Each document is a snapshot of a situation at two different times - five years apart. If the occupational pattern of total employment changes slowly, or very little, the census data is useful for ranking occupations.

Analysts checked national employment figures from the 1980 Census and also from the 1983 Current Population Survey. They noted the specific occupations on each source, checked each occupation's portion of total employment, looked at the concentration of women employed in the occupations during each year, and concluded that occupational structure changed very slowly during that time. The analysts, therefore, assumed that the state's occupational structure represented on the wage survey is similar to the Wisconsin 1980 Census employment pattern.

The analysts did not group or cluster the occupational categories, except for three areas. They added elementary to secondary school teachers, they totaled several sales worker categories which the census separates according to the commodity sold, and they considered cashiers and counter clerks similar enough to add together as one group.

To determine the concentration of women within an occupation, the analysts found those with at least 11,000 women employed and also within which at least 60% of the employed were women. The same methodology determined men's occupational concentration.

The wage survey included only private employers, no governmental units. So, analysts obtained an average teacher's salary from the state's Department of Public Instruction. And, farmers are not included though they do rank in the top employment categories for both men and women.

On the 1980 Census, workers placed themselves in various occupations. As a result, a large amount of employment shows up in various "not elsewhere

classified" categories which have no counterpart on the wage survey.

What are the results? Women are concentrated in 14 occupational categories. In 1980, these 14 categories compose 45 percent of total women's employment throughout the state. However, men, too, are concentrated in occupations, though somewhat less than women. Nineteen occupations contain about 38 percent of employed men. And, there are wage differences. While some attribute lower pay in "women's jobs" to economic discrimination, others cite other factors such as more overtime hours worked by men.

TOP FEMALE OCCUPATIONS IN WISCONSIN AND AVERAGE WAGE
(Occupations with at least 11,000 employed women and in which women compose at least 60% of total employment)

Occupation ranked by Employment	% Women in Occupation	Average Wage
1. Secretary	99.0%	$ 4.99/hr.
2. School Teachers, Elementary and Secondary	66.5	$24,581/yr.
3. Sales Workers	62.2	$ 4.53/hr.
4. Bookkeepers (Accounting and Auditing)	90.8	$ 6.67/hr.
5. Waitresses	96.1	$ 3.50/hr.,excl.tips
6. Nursing Aides	91.5	$ 5.24/hr.
7. Cashiers, sales and and Counter Clerks	87.8	$ 3.96/hr.
8. General Office Clerks	86.5	$ 5.91/hr.
9. Registered Nurses	96.4	$10.52/hr.
10. Cooks, excl. short-order	64.2	$ 4.63/hr.
11. Typist	97.9	$ 5.87/hr.
12. Hand Packers & Packagers	69.9	$ 6.50/hr.
13. Child Care Workers	90.8	$ 4.41/hr.
14. Receptionist	97.0	$ 5.32/hr.

TOP MALE OCCUPATIONS IN WISCONSIN AND AVERAGE WAGE
(Occupations with at least 11,000 employed men, and in which men compose at least 60% of total employment)

Occupations ranked by Employment	% Men in Occupation	Average Wage
1. Administrators & Mgrs., Not elsewhere classified	76.8%	N.A.
2. Truck Drivers, Heavy	98.1	$ 9.54/hr.
3. Machine Operators, misc. or not specified	74.6	N.A.
4. Janitors & Cleaners	73.3	$ 6.08/hr.
5. Supervisors, Production	88.1	N.A.
6. Carpenters	98.6	$11.28/hr.
7. Laborers, excl. construction	77.2	N.A.
8. Farm Workers	67.5	N.A.
9. Welders & Cutters	92.8	$11.00/hr.
10. Sales Representatives	87.8	$10.55/hr.
11. Automobile Mechanics	98.8	$ 9.02/hr.
12. Manager, Sales	70.9	$ 9.10/hr.
13. General Machinists	95.4	$ 9.43/hr.
14. Superintendent, Const.	99.2	$15.07/hr.
15. Construction Worker	97.5	$11.06/hr.
16. Industrial Truck Operators	94.5	$ 9.64/hr.
17. Electricians	98.1	$14.33/hr.
18. Maintenance Mechanic	97.0	$ 9.86/hr.
19. Accountants and Auditors	63.4	$10.93/hr.

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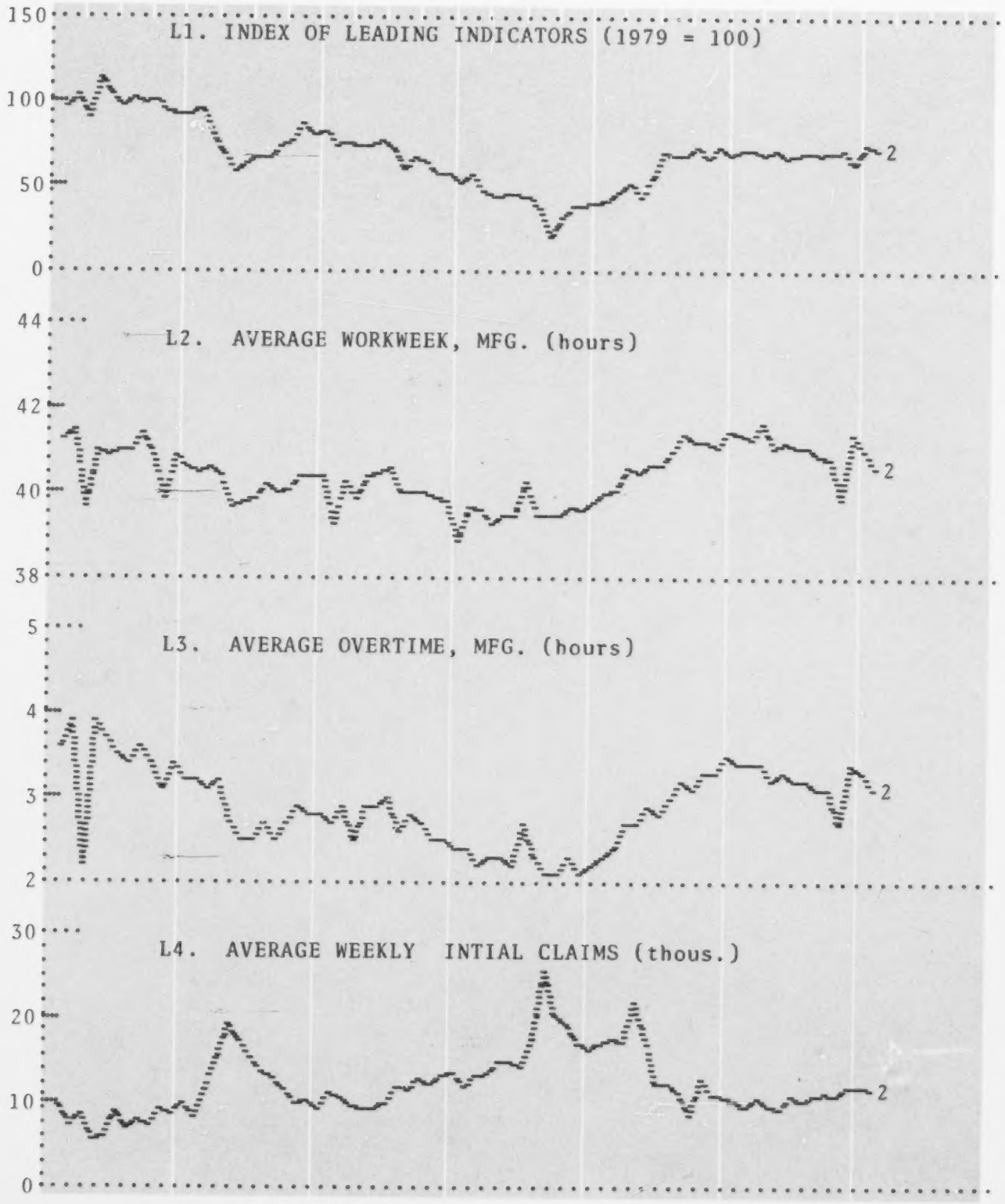

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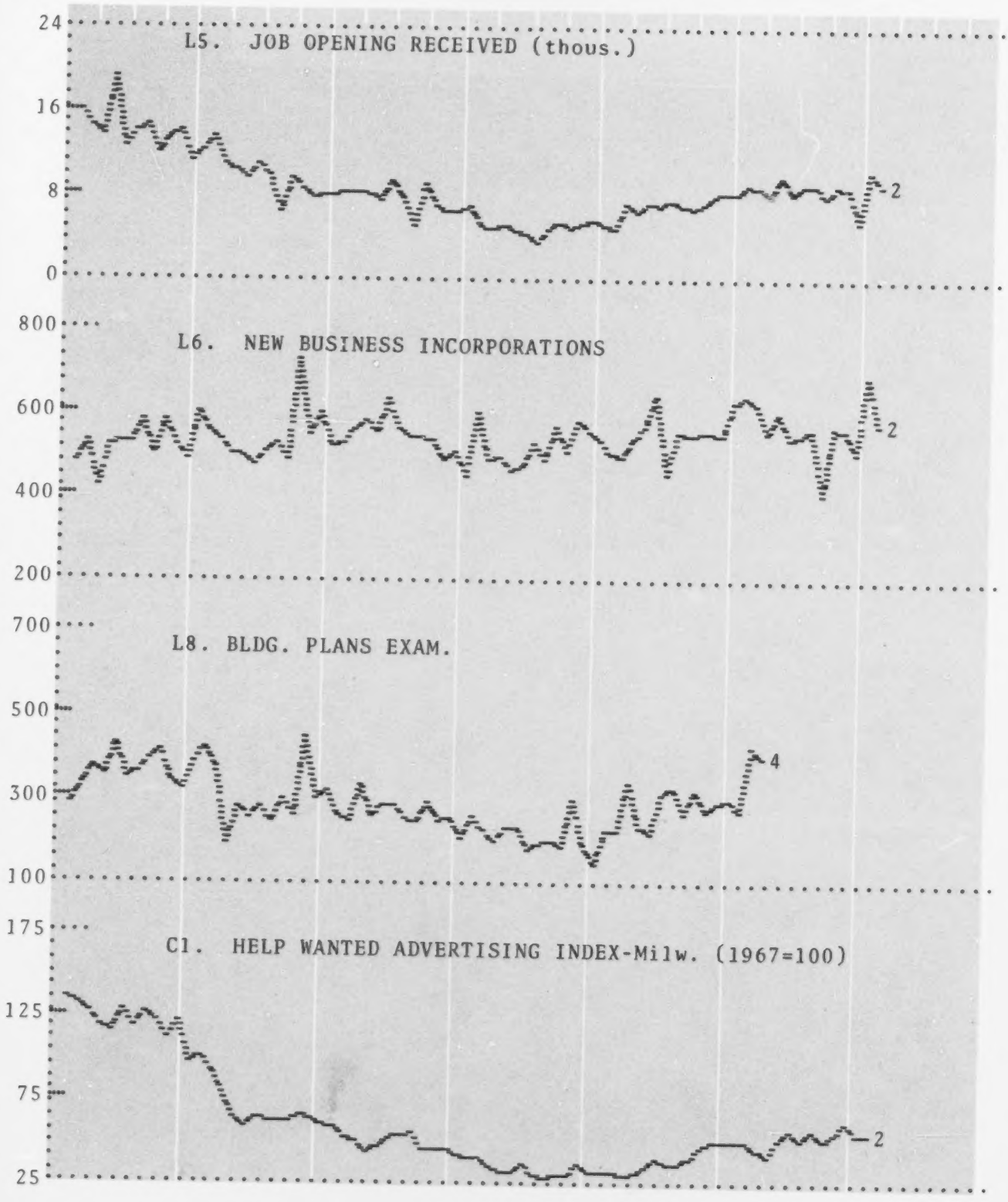

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